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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,790	03/26/2004	Maurice Zauderer	1843.0120001/AJK	7155

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STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER	
SZPERKA, MICHAEL EDWARD	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1644	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/809,790	ZAUDERER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael Szperka	1644	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) 1-60 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-19, drawn to a compound comprising one or more MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complexes that comprise an MHC class I $\alpha 3$ domain, β_2-microglobulin, and a peptide, classified in class 530, subclass 387.3.

II. Claims 20-35, drawn to a compound comprising one or more MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complexes that comprise one or more MHC class I $\alpha 3$ domains, β_2-microglobulin, and a costimulatory molecule, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

III. Claims 36-56, drawn to a compound comprising two or more MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complexes that comprise one or more MHC class I $\alpha 3$ domains, β_2-microglobulin, and a multivalent compound, classified in class 530, subclass 391.1.

IV. Claim 57, drawn to a polynucleotide that encodes an MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complex, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

V. Claims 58-60, drawn to a method of immunizing an animal, classified in class 424, subclass 192.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I-III and V are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the method of Group V can be practiced with any of the products of Groups I-III.

3. Inventions I-IV are different products. These compositions contain different ingredients, require distinct process steps for their synthesis, and differ in their ultimate structure. Art on any one of these groups would not necessarily anticipate or render obvious the products of the other groups. Therefore they are patentably distinct.

4. Inventions IV and V are patentably distinct because a polynucleotide encoding an MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complex cannot be used in the methods of immunization recited in the claims of Group V, since these claims require the presence of a polypeptide complex. Therefore they are patentably distinct.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the literature searches required for Groups I-V are not coextensive and Groups I-V have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention of Groups I-III. The species are the source of the cell surface marker utilized in the inventions of Groups I-III. Applicant is required to elect a cell marker surface source from the following:

A) professional antigen presenting cell,

B) tumor cell,

C) epithelial cell,

D) fibroblast,

E) T cell, or

F) infected cell.

These species are distinct because they differ in structure.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-5 and 15-19 generic for Group I, claims 20-24 and 34-35 are generic for Group II, and claims 36-40 and 49-56 are generic for Group III.

7. This application also contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention of Groups I and III. The species are the source of the peptide used in Groups I and III. Applicant is required to elect a peptide source from the following:

A) cancer cell,

B) infectious agent/infected cell, or

C) autoimmune disease.

These species are distinct because they differ in structure.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-14 and 19 are generic for Group I, and claims 36-48 and 52-56 are generic for Group III.

8. Additionally, this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention of Group III. The species are the identity of the additional component(s) of the MHC class I $\alpha 3$ complex. Applicant is required to elect an additional component from the following:

A) antigenic peptides,

B) costimulatory molecules,

C) cytokines, or

D) a combination of the above.

These species are distinct because they differ in structure. Note that if applicant elects D, applicant must indicate a defined combination (i.e. A+B, B+C, A+C, or A+B+C) for the election to be deemed responsive.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 36-48 and 54-56 are generic.

9. Further, this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention of Group III. The species are the identity of the multivalent compound used in the claimed invention. Applicant is required to elect a multivalent compound from the following:

E) avidin/streptavidin, or

F) a modified GCN4-zipper motif.

These species are distinct because they differ in structure.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 36-53 are generic.

10. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim

is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

11. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

12. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim

remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

13. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of In re Ochiai, In re Brouwer and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Szperka whose telephone number is 571-272-2934. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on 571-272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Szperka, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600
January 7, 2005

Patrick J. Nolan, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 1600